



Docket No. ROYCE-66794

I hereby certify that on April 30, 2004, which is the date I am signing this certificate, I am depositing this correspondence with the United States Postal Service, first class mail, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

A. C. Rose

Alan C. Rose (17,047)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.	:	10/828,744	Confirmation No.: N/A
Applicant	:	Tracy E. Grim et al.	
Filed	:	April 20, 2004	
Art Unit	:	Not Yet Assigned	
Examiner	:	Not Yet Assigned	
Title	:	SPLINT OR SUPPORT WITH QUICK LOCATION TECHNIQUE	
Docket No.:	:	ROYCE-66794	
Customer No.	:	24201	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant brings the reference(s) listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449 to the examiner's attention. 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. Do not construe the filing of this information disclosure statement as a representation that applicant has made a search (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), or as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. We enclose copies of the cited document(s).

English Language Documents:

U.S. Patent No. 3,850,167; U.S. Patent No. 4,442,833; U.S. Patent No. 4,683,877; U.S. Patent No. 5,577,999; U.S. Patent No. 5,807,295; U.S. Patent No. 6,007,505; U.S. Patent No. 6,042,557; U.S. Patent No. 6,139,513 and U.S. Patent No. 6,186,966.

Foreign Language Documents:

None.

We request that the examiner show that he or she considered the cited references by returning a copy of the attached form PTO-1449 with initials or other appropriate marks, and that the examiner make the references of record as cited references in the application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional filing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17, which may be required now or during the pendency of this application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-2425. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

DATED: April 30, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

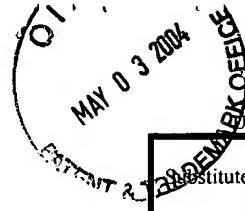
By:



Alan C. Rose, Reg. No. 17,047
Attorney for Applicant

Fulwider Patton Lee & Utecht, LLP
Howard Hughes Center
6060 Center Drive, Tenth Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90045
Telephone: (310) 824-5555
Facsimile: (310) 824-9696

50958.1



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/828,744
Filing Date	April 20, 2004
First Named Inventor	Tracy E. Grim et al.
Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	ROYCE-66794

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

**Examiner
Signature** **Considered** **Initials**

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.